

the Department of State (particularly the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs and the Office of the Legal Adviser).

I shall continue to report periodically to the Congress on significant developments, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1703(c).

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
April 12, 1994.

### **Message to Congress on the Panama Canal Commission**

*April 12, 1994*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 3522 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1993 (Public Law 102-484; 22 U.S.C. 3611 note), I transmit herewith the recommendations for changes to the Panama Canal Commission. I have determined that the adoption of these recommendations would facilitate and encourage the operation of the Canal through an autonomous entity under the Government of Panama after the transfer of the waterway on December 31, 1999, pursuant to the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977 and related agreements.

In accordance with the law cited above, an extensive study of the governance and financial management structure of the Panama Canal Commission was conducted. The study and its recommendations were then considered and discussed among representatives of the Departments of State, Defense, the Treasury, Commerce, Transportation, and Justice, as well as the Panama Canal Commission. The study, and the process that followed it, formed the basis for my recommendations, which are contained in the attached document.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
April 12, 1994.

### **Nomination for Deputy Director of the National Science Foundation**

*April 12, 1994*

The President today announced his intention to nominate Dr. Anne C. Petersen as

Deputy Director of the National Science Foundation. She will be the first woman to serve in one of the two top management posts at the Foundation in its 44-year history.

"I am pleased today to name a leading scientist and administrator to our experienced team of science and technology leaders," the President said. "Anne Petersen has impeccable scientific standing as a social scientist with strong research capabilities in mathematics and statistics. She also is an outstanding administrator with a significant track record as a dean at two major universities, Penn State and the University of Minnesota."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

### **Nomination for an Associate Judge on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia**

*April 12, 1994*

The President has nominated Rhonda Reid Winston to serve on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

"Rhonda Winston's solid legal background and dedication to justice will be a great asset to the DC Superior Court and the Nation's Capital," the President said.

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

### **Nomination for U.S. Attorney for Alabama**

*April 12, 1994*

The President today nominated Redding Pitt, a veteran of the Alabama attorney general's office, to be U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Alabama.

"Redding Pitt's extensive experience in the field of law and his knowledge of Alabama will make an inestimable contribution to the State and to the country's judicial system," the President said.

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

### **Nomination for U.S. Attorney for Delaware**

*April 12, 1994*

The President today nominated Gregory Moneta Sleet as the U.S. Attorney for the District of Delaware.

"Gregory Moneta Sleet's extensive legal background and experience in the State of Delaware make him an excellent choice for this most important judicial position," the President said.

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

### **Nomination for U.S. Attorney for New Jersey**

*April 12, 1994*

The President today nominated Faith S. Hochberg as the U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey.

"Faith Hochberg's legal skills and dedication to law enforcement make her an excellent candidate for this position and will serve the State of New Jersey well," the President said.

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

### **Letter to Congressional Leaders on Evacuations From Rwanda and Burundi**

*April 12, 1994*

*Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)*

On April 6, 1994, the private plane of Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana crashed under suspicious circumstances on approach to Rwanda's capital, Kigali, killing the President and others, including the President of neighboring Burundi. Following the crash, some members of the Rwandan military began killing opposition leaders and civilians. General fighting broke out, including fighting between government forces and forces of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RFP), encamped in Kigali under a peace agreement. As violence in the capital escalated, the State Department ordered the departure

of U.S. Government employees and dependents. Combat-equipped U.S. military forces began deploying to Burundi to be in a position to conduct possible noncombatant evacuation operations of U.S. citizens and designated third-country nationals.

During April 9-10, 275 Marines were airlifted via C-130 aircraft to Bujumbura, Burundi. (A total of 328 U.S. Armed Forces personnel deployed to Burundi, including aircrews.) Their mission was to be in position to link up with American citizens moving from Rwanda to Burundi via overland convoy and to be prepared to proceed to the Rwandan capital of Kigali to assist with their departure, if necessary. On April 9-10, American citizens proceeded to leave Rwanda by several overland convoys to Bujumbura and by other routes. Approximately 240 U.S. citizens were evacuated from Rwanda. Most were then flown by U.S. C-141 aircraft to Nairobi, Kenya. Approximately 21 citizens chose to remain in Rwanda for various reasons. It did not become necessary for U.S. forces to enter Rwanda. (United States C-5 aircraft also airlifted Belgian military forces and equipment into Nairobi to assist Belgian efforts in support of their citizens.)

I am pleased to report that these operations were successful, that no hostilities were encountered, and that no casualties were suffered by U.S. forces in this operation.

I took these actions pursuant to my constitutional authority to conduct foreign relations and as Commander in Chief. I am providing this information as part of my effort to keep the Congress fully informed, consistent with the War Powers Resolution. I appreciate the support of the Congress for these actions to protect American citizens.

Sincerely,

**Bill Clinton**

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Robert C. Byrd, President pro tempore of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 13.